

ABSTRACT

The present invention 10 discloses a glider wheelchair which includes an outer frame 20 that supports the wheel structure and an inner frame 24 that supports the seat 22. The outer 20 and inner 24 frames are interconnected by means of a pair of swing arms 18 on the front and rear of the wheelchair 10 that allow the inner 24 frame to pivot and glide within the outer 20 frame. The swing arms 18 pivot between the front 50 and rear wheels 52 allowing the center of gravity to remain within the wheelchair 10 frame while in motion ensuring stability. The upper end of the swing arms 18 are hinged at 28 to the outer wheel frame 20 and the lower end of the swing arms are hinged to the inner seat frame 24. To protect the occupant 12 from pinch points created by the pivoting motion, the glider wheelchair arm rests 14 are molded to cover the upper pivot hinge 28. In addition, to prevent an undesired swinging motion, a locking handle 16 is affixed to the outer frame 20. In other embodiments of the glider wheelchair 10, the wheelchair includes mechanical wheel brakes 36, 38, front 40 and/or rear 42 stops to restrict the swing arc and dual motor drive system controls 44, 46 powered by a battery pack 48.